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Vol. XLIV • No. 2 • January 27, 2012

Ignacio, Colorado • 81137-0737

Bulk Rate - U.S. Postage Permit No. 1

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Tribe seeks feedback on natural resources plan

By Ace Stryker
The Southern Ute Drum

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Natural Resources Department wants to hear from more tribal members about how it could better manage natural resources on the reservation.

In October, the department mailed surveys to tribal members seeking feedback for an update of the tribe's Natural Resources Management Plan. Of the roughly 1,000 sent, 83 came back — and the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council would like to hear from more people before proceeding, said department Director Steve Whiteman.

"I think the council wants to see more tribal members commenting," he said. "The council really wanted more of a cultural perspective as far as resource management goes."

To that end, Natural Resources will be organizing an open house-style meeting in February. Whiteman said details are yet to be finalized, but it will give tribal members an opportunity to learn about the plan and meet with different divisions, such as Forestry and Wildlife Resources.

A letter will be mailed to all tribal members with more information, Whiteman said.

A review of initial responses yielded three trends: tribal members are not aware of the full extent of resource management activity on the reservation; they want to be more involved, whether by working for the department or in an advisory role; and they want more services, such as weed control and fence improvements.

Forestry Division Head Brian Gideon said more details from the initial round of surveys will be available after review by Ecosphere Environmental Services.

Protecting a cultural legacy

By Jeremy Wade Shockley
The Southern Ute Drum

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's bison herd started with a young bull bison named Rolling Thunder.

Produced during that first year, he was the first calf to be born on the Southern Ute Reservation. Now between 13 and 15 calves are born each year.

Since acquiring its first group of bison in 1984 from Colorado National Monument Park, the tribe has moved steadily toward more use-orientated management of the herd.

Today the herd is 38 strong and resides on tribal land southeast of Ignacio. Under the direction of the tribe's Wildlife Resource Management Division, bison manager Chris Olguin cares for the herd from one season to the next.

Important purposes of the tribe's herd include providing for the membership culturally and educationally.

Bison meat is made ready for tribal members with specific requests. The program also provides meat to the Powwow Committee and gourd dance societies for powwow events.

"[Our ancestors] had more of a spiritual connection [with the bison] and how that ties to Sun Dance ceremonies, primarily harvesting deer and elk for food," Southern Ute Tribal Chairman Jimmy R. Newton Jr. said.

The Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy also uses bison, which is prepared weekly for students as part of their meal plan. The Shining Mountain Diabetes Program uses bison meat as a dietary supplement for its health benefits.

In addition, Olguin uses his



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

Chris Olguin, bison manager for the Southern Ute Wildlife Resource Management Division, reflects fondly on the history of the tribe's buffalo herd, recalling stories of Rolling Thunder, the first bull bison born on the reservation, which passed away in the spring of 1999. The tribe currently manages a small population of adult bison numbering in the 30s. The herd resides southeast of Ignacio on tribal land.

position to educate, giving school presentations on the cultural significance of bison in Native American culture. Often, he brings students out to visit the herd.

In the herd, bison are tagged and cared for with all the opportunities afforded to prize livestock, Olguin said. Much of their needs are funded through grants, from early vaccinations to processing the animals for consumption once they reach maturity.

Bison page 6



Ignacio's future road map completed



By Ace Stryker
The Southern Ute Drum

After six years of planning, the designers of the Ignacio Area Corridor Access Plan met on Wednesday, Jan. 25 in the Southern Ute Tribal Council Chambers to celebrate the final product.

The plan, which proposes traffic improvements based on current trends and a 20-year forecast, is notable for being a joint effort among four governments: the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the Town of Ignacio, La Plata County, and the State of Colorado's Department of Transportation.

"This is a historic moment for the Southern Ute Tribe, knowing that we can collaborate in a government-to-government relationship," Newton said. "We can live together, work together in harmony to achieve our goals. ... That's priceless."

Newton called such relationships rare in both Indian Country and the United States.

The plan covers an area from the Sky Ute Casino Resort on the north to the State Highway 172/County Road 318 intersection on the south, and to just beyond the State Highway 151/Buck Highway intersection on the east. It calls for a variety of improvements, including divided parkways and a traffic light at the 172/151 intersection.

Southern Ute Vice Chairman J. Michael Olguin said the corridor would provide access for the future development of Ignacio.

"When we look at Ignacio, Colorado, it's a small town, a rural town," he said. "We're going to see future development hopefully for this community."

Rodney Class-Erickson, director of the Southern Ute Tribal Planning Department, said once all four entities signed a memorandum of understanding in May 2010, the project moved briskly.

"We met with numerous, numerous stakeholders," he said, citing a series of public meetings that took



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

Representatives of the four governments involved in the Ignacio Area Corridor Access Plan mark the plan's completion with a ceremonial signing on Wednesday, Jan. 25: Commissioner Bobby Anthony Lieb Jr. of the La Plata County Board of County Commissioners, Chairman Jimmy R. Newton Jr. of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Mayor Cecilia Robbins of the Town of Ignacio, and Chief Engineer Tim Harris of the Colorado Department of Transportation.

place over the past 16 months.

Class-Erickson said it's important to note that approval of the plan does not mean any funds have been committed to carry out its provisions; it does, however, ease the prospect of securing future funding.

Ignacio Mayor Cecilia Robbins called the landmark a "great thing" that will benefit the town

for generations to come.

"This directly affects our children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren," she said. "I can't even count the number of meetings I've been to. ... It's been a long time coming."

"The greatest thing here is the working relationships," Council Lady Pathimi GoodTracks said. Tim Harris, chief engineer for

CDOT, said it's rare that four different government entities can collaborate well on such a project.

"We really are excited about this," he said. "This is the first time that CDOT was not the lead on a project of this nature."

For more information on the provisions of the IACAP, visit the Tribal Planning website at www.southern-ute.nsn.us/planning.



News in brief

IGNACIO

Attention: Southern Ute, Native American elders

You are invited to come and share your culture and traditional expertise with the students of the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy. You can choose the group size you will work with. You will be compensated with a stipend. For more information, call Georgia McKinley at 970-563-0253 ext. 2701.

SunUte gym to close Jan. 27 – 28

The SunUte Community Center gym will be closed starting on Friday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. and will be closed all day Saturday, Jan. 28 due to the Butch Melton Invitational Wrestling Tournament.

Thought of being a member of Tribal Council?

Attention tribal members ages 13 to 19 years of age: Are you concerned about issues facing tribal youth? Committed to make a difference in our community that will have a positive impact on the tribal youth? Then the Sunshine Cloud Smith Youth Advisory Council may be for you. Become a leader, role model and voice for the tribal youth. For more information, contact McKean Walton at 970-563-0100 ext. 2314. Sponsored by the Southern Ute Tribal Council.

Free bison meat available to tribal members

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Division of Wildlife Resource Management maintains a small herd of bison for the Tribe's ceremonial, cultural and dietary needs. As a service to the tribal membership, the division makes available bison meat to enrolled Southern Ute tribal members free of charge. Tribal bison are grass-fed at low herd density and are free of artificial hormones and other synthetic chemicals. Bison meat is naturally low in cholesterol and an excellent, healthy alternative to beef. If you are an enrolled Southern Ute tribal member interested in obtaining bison meat for personal use, call the Division of Wildlife at 970-563-0130. Quantities and cuts of meat available may be limited.

SunUte now taking registrations for leagues

The SunUte Community Center is now taking registrations for adult basketball and women's volleyball leagues. The basketball leagues are for men's open, women's open and men's 35 and over leagues. The registration fee is \$300 per team. The deadline to register for the basketball leagues is Jan. 27. The women's volleyball league registration is \$300 per team and the deadline to register is Jan. 27. To register or if you have any questions, please contact Kayla Wing or McKean Walton at 970-563-0124 or check out the SunUte website at www.sunute.com.

Museum to host Snowdown event

The Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum will host a "What's in a Tale?," a storytelling and cultural craft event, on Saturday, Feb. 4 as part of Durango's annual Snowdown festivities. For more information, visit www.succm.org.

DURANGO

Information sessions for adult learners

Are you ready to earn your Bachelor's degree? Learn how at free informational sessions from Fort Lewis College. Sessions will cover opportunities for adult learners at FLC and explain how to enroll and apply for financial aid. Sessions are free and open to the public, and will be held every Wednesday at the Durango Public Library from 6 – 7 p.m., in Program Room 3. For more information, call 970-247-7670.

Legal affairs class coming to county fairgrounds

Colorado State University's La Plata County Extension will offer "Legally Secure Your Financial Future," a class designed to help evaluate and organize legal affairs related to life issues. The class consists of three sessions: organizing your important legal documents and records, advance directive and medical power of attorney, and estate planning concerning wills and trusts in Colorado. The first series will take place from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Jan. 26, 30, and Feb. 1 at the La Plata County Fairgrounds. The second series will take place Feb. 13, 21 and 28 at the Lavenia McCoy Public Library in Bayfield. The cost for materials is \$50 for the three sessions or \$20 for each individual class. Pre-registration is required. Ccall 970-382-6463 to register.

NEW MEXICO

2012 Gathering of Nations dates announced

The world's largest gathering of Native American and indigenous people will take place in Albuquerque between April 26 and 28. The Gathering of Nations will be held at the University of New Mexico's University Arena (known locally as "The Pit") in Albuquerque and will begin on Thursday, April 26 with registration for singers and dancers. Later that evening, the Miss Indian World competition begins at 7 p.m. and will be held at the Hard Rock Casino and Hotel – Albuquerque, just south of the Albuquerque city limits. The crowning will take place on Saturday, April 28 at 7 p.m. at "The Pit." The much-anticipated grand entry, begins at noon on Friday, April 27. For more information regarding purchasing tickets, airfare and hotel accommodations visit www.gatheringofnations.com.

Many Moons Ago



photo archives/SU DRUM

10 Years Ago

A small herd of elk tried to decide which way to run from a helicopter being used in the annual wildlife population survey on the Southern Ute Reservation. The survey, centered mainly on the eastern half of the Southern Ute homelands, was conducted over a few weeks.

This photo first appeared in the Jan. 25, 2002, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.

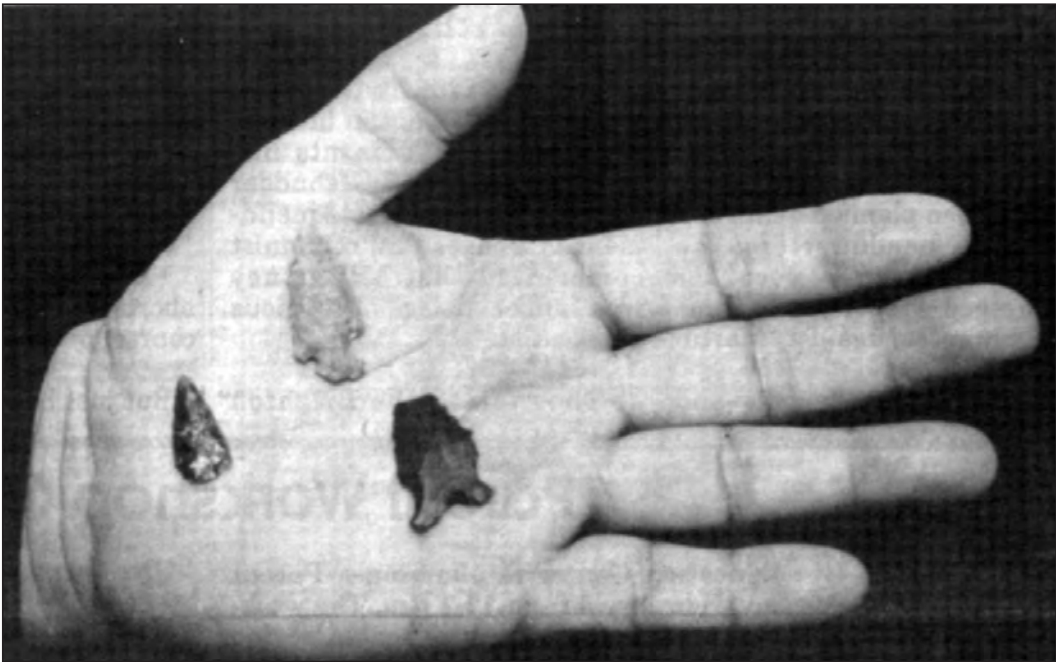


photo archives/SU DRUM

20 Years Ago

These arrowheads, kept secure by the Natural Resources Division, were found while an archaeology crew inspected a proposed gas well site. The archaeological survey crew looked for artifacts and evidence of ancient use by humans. The crew left all but the most rare artifacts, which were turned over to the Natural Resources Division.

This photo first appeared in the Jan. 27, 1992, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.



photo archives/SU DRUM

30 Years Ago

Head Start children enjoyed their noon meal at the Southern Ute Head Start Center. This photo first appeared in the Jan. 15, 1982, edition of The Southern Ute Drum.

See SkyUteCasino.com for all gaming promotions & entertainment information!

SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

\$112,000 Extravaganza

Sky Ute Casino is starting 2012 off with a bang so come get your share of the \$92,000 remaining in Cash and Sky Ute Loot and in the month of January!

Spin the Wheel Kiosk Game

All Bear Club members can swipe their card at the kiosk and play the New Year Extravaganza game once per week on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday from 12 p.m. until 9 p.m. Prizes range from entry tickets into the Saturday cash drawings up to \$100 in Sky Ute Loot!

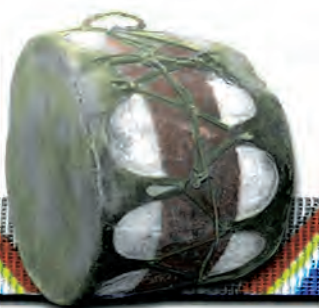
Saturday Cash Drawings

Every Saturday in January we will hold hourly drawings from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. and you could win your share of the \$52,000 in CASH to be given away!

Must be 21 years of age or older. Must be a member of the Bear Club. Must check in at the kiosk on New Year's Eve as well as on Saturday's for drawings. Sky Ute Loot must be played off into Sky Ute Loot eligible slot machines and has no cash value. Must be present to win. Employees of Sky Ute Casino and their immediate family are not eligible for cash drawings. Management reserves the right to change or cancel this promotion at anytime without prior notice.

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www.skyutecasino.com



Royalty supports N.M. fundraiser



Miss Southern Ute Brianna GoodTracks-Alires made a trip to the Cochiti School in Cochiti, N.M., on Saturday, Jan. 27 to participate in an 8th grade class benefit powwow. The Cochiti students are raising funds for travel to Boston and New York in May. During her visit, GoodTracks-Alires demonstrated the women's northern traditional dance style.

photo Tom Alires/Special to the Drum

Núu-'apaghapi 102 class notes: Jan. 18

Words		
1. (a) little (bit)	mípe-	adverb
2. airplane	yachichichí	'little flying thing'
	nəa-kaasí	'wind train'
3. baby	núu-ruachí	'human-child,' noun
4. bald eagle	máawa	noun
5. black (an)	túu-kwa-rə-mə	adjective
6. black dog	túu-sarichí	noun
7. calf	kuchu-puku-raachí	'buffalo-domestic-child' noun
8. child	tuachí	'born,' noun
9. colt	kava-raachí	'horse-child,' noun
10. dog	sarichí	noun
11. elk fawn	paríyə-raachí	'elk-child,' noun
12. fawn	təiyə-raachí	'deer-child,' noun
13. golden eagle	kwanachí	noun
14. inside	-náagha	post-position
15. little, small	mípechi	adjective
16. maybe (say this right)	naagha	adverb
17. mean (an)	tuu-gwa-rə-mə	adjective
18. mean dog	tuu-sarichí	noun
19. midget	núu-raachí	'human-child,' noun
20. moose baby	payuku-raachí	'moose-child,' noun
21. my cheek	sevavə-n	noun
22. my horn	'áapə-n	noun
23. my older brother	pavichi-n	noun
24. my younger brother	chaghachi-n	noun
25. slapping	ma-vichikə-	verb/verb
26. to clap	pípi-ti-kəni	verb
27. woman	mama-chí	noun

Sentences	
1. Because of this/that s/he is fat/stout!	Togho-sapa-'ura 'aghotə-mə 'ura-'ay.
2. Do y'all want water?	Məni-aa páa 'asti'i-kya-y?
3. S/he (invis) eats a lot.	'uwas-'ura 'avana təka-mi.
4. S/he (vis) eats a lot.	Máas-'ura 'avana təka-mi.
5. S/he (vis) is saying the truth.	Máas-'ura təvəchi-sapa 'áy-kh.
6. (S/he) talks a lot.	'Ava'na 'apagha-rə.
7. (The) cat is sitting in(side) the hat.	Múusachí káachoghopə-náagha kari.
8. (The) cow is walking.	Kuchu-pukú paghay-'way.
9. (The) girls are sitting in the car.	Náa-nə'achichi-u kwáatə-náagha yugwi.
10. What are they (vis) saying?	Maməs-'ura 'ipə(a) máy-kya-y?
11. What is it that they (vis) are saying?	Mamə-as-'ura 'ipə(a) máy-kya-na?
12. What is s/he/you doing?	'Ipə(a) 'ini-kh?
13. What is s/he/you saying?	'Ipə(a) 'áy-kh?
14. What does s/he/you want to eat?	'Ipə(a) təka-vaachí 'asti'i?
15. What s/he (vis) is saying, is it true?	('uru) máayas-'ura máy-na, təvəchi-sapa-aa 'ura-'ay?
16. Who knows about that one (invis).	'uwa-va-yis.
17. Who knows about that one (vis).	Máa-va-yis.
18. Who knows about that thing (invis).	'uru-vwa-yis.

Adjective: a word describing nouns
Adverb: describes a verb, an adjective, another adverb or sentence
Post-position: a suffix that attaches to the end of another word
(): things in parenthesis are optional

Powwow Trails

Kiyaksa Waniyetu Wacipi
January 28 – 29
Kyle, SD
Contact: MJ Bull Bear
Phone: 605-899-2460
Email: mjb78@yahoo.com

28th Annual Elmira Powwow
February 4
24936 Fir Grove • Elmira, OR
Contact: Alan Merrill
Phone: 541-461-8228
Email: amerrill@lesd.kl2.or.us
Web: www.lesd.kl2.or.us/indianeducation/index.html

MAAIC Valentine Benefit Powwow
February 11
650 N. Seneca • Wichita, KS
Contact: April Scott
Phone: 316-350-3340
Email: ascott@wichita.gov
Web: www.theindiancenter.org

Wildhorse 16th Annual Powwow
February 11 – 12
14901 Inglewood Ave. • Lawndale, CA
Contact: Jorge Lechuga
Phone: 310-987-1274
Email: wildhorsesingers@yahoo.com
web: www.wildhorsesingersanddancers.org

Vero Beach 2012 'Thunder on the Beach' Powwow
February 17 – 19
Indian River County Fairgrounds, 7955 58th Ave. • Vero beach, FL
Phone: 772-567-1579
Web: www.thunderonthebeachpowwow.net

18th Annual Social Powwow
February 25
1431 East Campbell Road • Phoenix, AZ
Contact: Yarnell Goltooth
Phone: 602-626-4055
Email: madisonnapc@gmail.com
Web: www.facebook.com/madisonnapc

Ute Language

chiiri - fry

yuuvaana - fry bread

tuupana'ag'ochi - frying pan



Editor's note: The Ute Language and translation are transcribed from the 2011 Ute Dictionary, ©1996.

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The Kidney Corner: How much sodium do you need?

By Dr. Mark Saddler
Durango Nephrology Associates

Sodium is an element found in great quantity in the earth, especially in the oceans — mainly as sodium chloride, or common salt.

Salt has been used for millennia to preserve food (for example, by salting meat and in pickles). It was such a prized commodity in Roman times that soldiers were paid in salt — hence the word “salary.” It is needed for blood pressure balance, nerve transmission, heart activity, and many metabolic functions.

Although animals need sodium, plants do not, and plant foods are consistently low in sodium, so herbivores actively seek salt (for example, in salt licks).

Excessive salt intake in humans results in retention of water and expansion of body fluids. Normally, the kidneys have the ability to remove this extra volume, but if there is any illness interfering with this abil-



ity, the result may be high blood pressure or swelling (edema), which was discussed in the last issue of the Kidney Corner.

Long-term excessive intake of salt is an important cause of high blood pressure. In patients who already suffer from hypertension, it severely interferes with the ability of medications to control blood pressure.

High salt intake also results in extra calcium loss in the urine and decreased bone density, resulting in increased long-term

risk of fractures.

Swelling, or edema, can result from high salt intake in patients with congestive heart failure, kidney disease or liver disease. While salt restriction is a good idea for all of us, patients with these conditions should be especially careful. Diuretic medications, which are frequently used in these conditions, work poorly if salt intake is not restricted.

Humans require about 1/2 a gram of sodium per day, but most diets are much higher. Less than 2 grams of sodium per day is still considered “low sodium.”

It’s difficult to effectively restrict sodium, because almost all processed foods or restaurant foods are high in salt. To succeed in sodium restriction, it is important either to prepare your own food from fresh ingredients or to read the nutrition labels on the food.

A good general rule is that unless food is labeled “low sodium,” it’s too high for people on a sodium-restricted diet. Soups, processed meats, salad dressings, crackers, pickles and snack foods are often very high in sodium.

The good news is that many major food manufacturers do now make low sodium products if you look for them.

Occasionally, kidney doctors are called to see patients with low sodium levels. This condition, called “hyponatremia,” can either be caused by a loss of sodium (for example, due to diarrhea or diuretic therapy) or by an excess of water that cannot be excreted due to an abnormality of a hormone called “antidiuretic hormone.”

This can occur as a result of cancer, lung disease or brain disease, and usually the mainstay of treatment is water restriction. It can be very dangerous due to swelling of brain cells.

Tens of thousands eligible for medical disability review

By Patricia Kime
Army Times

The Pentagon plans to notify more than 77,000 former service members that they are eligible for a review of their medical disability ratings.

Starting in January, the Veterans Benefit Administration and Defense Department’s Physical Disability Board of Review will send letters to veterans discharged between Sept. 11, 2001, and Dec. 31, 2009, urging them to apply for a review. Eligible are veterans who received disability ratings of 20 percent or lower from their military medical boards.

The PDBR, created in 2008 by Congress to address what were seen as inconsistencies in disability ratings granted by the various services, can determine whether veterans initially received fair ratings or are eligible for an increase.

At the 30 percent threshold, the veterans qualify for medical retirement, which carries lifetime

“The program is being underutilized. I hope to see many more veterans apply and get the benefits they should have earned to begin with.”

– Sen. Mark Udall,
D-Colo.

retired pay, medical care and other benefits.

In August, Sen. Mark Udall, D-Colo., wrote Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki urging him to open the VA’s database to the PDBR to help board members contact eligible vets. Many are unaware of the opportunity; since January 2009, the PDBR has received applications from about 3,000 veter-

ans, less than 4 percent of those eligible.

The VBA and the PDBR will send out the letters in batches, starting with 16,000 of the earliest eligible service members — those discharged between 2001 and 2003, PDBR spokeswoman Ann Shippy said.

“This is so we can see what the application rate will be and get them boarded in a timely manner,” she said.

All qualified veterans should receive a letter by Oct. 1, she said.

The PDBR process is slow. Applications take an average of 430 days to process — but it has resulted in ratings upgrades for nearly 50 percent of those who have applied, Shippy said.

Udall praised the teamwork between the VA and the Department of Defense on the notifications.

“The program is being underutilized,” he said. “I hope to see many more veterans apply to the PDBR and get the benefits they should have earned to begin with.”

Chew on this

By Wendy Rice
Shining Mountain Diabetes Program

Diabetes is part of the lives of several people in our community.

The three cornerstones that we use for care are diet, physical activity and medication if needed (i.e., insulin or oral glucose-lowering agents). Food raises blood glucose and blood fat levels. Activity and medications lower blood glucose and blood fat levels.

Each of these cornerstones is very individualized, and the level is determined by the individual and the team.

Diet is a way of life — not temporary or “special.” Achieving and maintaining a weight that reduces the amount of body fat has long been a primary dietary focus for people with type 2 diabetes.

Physical activity on a regular basis is another cornerstone. Aiming for blood glucose con-

trol, along with normal blood lipid levels and normal blood pressure, is an important goal (these sometimes require medication).

Two key strategies for type 2 diabetes are improving food choices — certain foods eaten at more regular times throughout the day — and decreasing the amount of sweetened beverages one drinks.

Beverages such as power drinks, soda pop, sweetened tea, and even juice, provide a rapid load of sugar that not only stresses the body but creates an unexpected subtle weight gain. Choosing water more often instead of those sweetened drinks and soda makes a significant difference.

So how much liquid do you need? A general guideline is 1/2 ounce per pound of body weight per day. For example: If you weigh 150 pounds, divide that in half. You need approximately 75 ounces, or 2.3 quarts, per day.

This is a great start! Small steps one at a time make a big difference.

Wendy Rice, registered dietitian, is a recent addition to the team at Shining Mountain Diabetes Program in Ignacio. She is available to see Native Americans on Fridays at the Southern Ute Health Center. To schedule an appointment, call Julie Olexa at 970-563-0100 ext. 2349.

Though Rice is new to the Shining Mountain Diabetes Program, she is not new to the area or to helping people to make changes to help improve their health. She has lived in this area since the 1970s and worked at the Jicarilla Clinic and Jicarilla Head Start Program for several years.

During that time she also worked with Native American Head Start programs around the country to help with health requirements.

SUIT Environmental Programs

is offering free home radon testing to Tribal Members.

Please call Peter Diethrich for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Priority to Elders and those with infants in their homes.

563-0135 x2238

pdieth@southern-ute.nsn.us

SKY UTE CASINO RESORT

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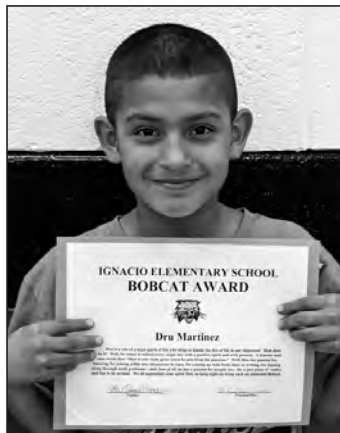
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Look for the Red Truck just off Piedra Rd.

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Bobcats of the month



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

These Ignacio Elementary School students were honored as Bobcats of the Month for January for their helpfulness, attitude in class and willingness to learn: Anthony Toledo, Dru Martinez and Lawrence Toledo.

STEM after-school open house at The Southern Ute Education Department



After school from 2:15-4:45 p.m.
Similar open house STEM programs will run the last Wednesday of each month, same time, and same place:

February 29 • March 28 • April 25

spark curiosity, ignite imagination, and power exploration

Is your 3rd-8th grader into science? Are they not sure what to do after-school?

Come discover your inner scientist in this fun and interactive experiment-filled open house program!

FREE FOR SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL STUDENTS. \$10 EACH FEE PER SESSION FOR JOM STUDENTS.

Believe it or not, Durango Discovery Museum after-school programs have taught students new science concepts and vocabulary, enhanced students' science skills and allowed them to have loads of fun! The tradition will continue, with science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs at the Southern Ute Education Department one Wednesday a month during Early Release. January's program will focus on Wild Wind. Students will learn engineering concepts as they create windmills, anemometers, pin-wheels and other windy crafts. They will make windy tools to take home, and explore how wind can be captured to do work. It's sure to be a blast!

The Durango Discovery Museum's education staff will guide students through inquiry and hands-on activities. Parents are more than welcome to come and enjoy the fun! We'll meet at the Southern Ute Education Building the last Wednesday of every month from 2:15 – 4:45 p.m. Stop in, say hello, and stay as long (or as short) as you'd like! Discovery Museum classes have sparked students' interest in science, engineering, math and technology, and they have inspired students to notice, wonder and learn. Parents, asked in the past, have responded that their children enjoyed the experience, their children became more interested in science while learning new vocabulary, and they were highly likely to bring their children to other programs offered by the Museum.

For further questions please contact Sarah Margoles at the Discovery Museum 970-403-1863, sarah@durangodiscovery.org or Carrie Vogel at Southern Ute, 970-563-0235, cvogel@southern-ute.nsn.us

Southern Ute Education Department *Southern Ute tribal students of the month*

Introducing a special recognition program for the young and talented Southern Ute students attending Ignacio public schools! The Southern Ute Education staff is looking for you! We know you are there, and we want to recognize two students a month for all their hard work and kindness given to others. Check the Drum each month and listen to KSUT for the announcement of the next honored students as well as an interview. It could be you! Way to go! Pending the success of this new program, SUED may extend this recognition to other local school districts in the fall. Stay tuned!



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

Eric Bean

8th grade, Ignacio Junior High School
Parents: Jeremy and Annette Bean.

I feel math is my strongest subject in school. Eric is also interested in politics.

Eric's hobbies include football and on-line gaming. He has both an X-Box and a PS3.

"I want to be an auto mechanic when I grow up."

Teacher comment: Eric is a fine young man who is well deserving of this honor. The Southern Ute Education teachers enjoy having him participate in the various programs. We look forward to having him on many activities and trips this summer.

Destinee Lucero

11th grade, Ignacio High School
Parents: Leora and David Lucero.

I like participating in volleyball and soccer. I want to go to college.

I have been chosen as Southern Ute tribal student for the month of Jan. because of my actions in school, such as keeping my grades up and staying out of trouble.

"I would like to thank my mom and dad, and also my sister for always supporting me, through whatever I did. I love you guys so much."

Education update

Education announces GED test dates

The Department of Education would like to announce the GED test dates for the upcoming months: Feb. 3, March 2 and April 6. The test is held at the Education Building, 330 Burns Ave. Registration and payments are due by Tuesday before the test. Scholarships are available for Native Americans who live within 50 miles of the service area, spend 12 hours in class, score a 450 on practice tests and submit paperwork two weeks in advance. For more information, call Pine River Community Learning Center at 970-563-0681 or Donna Broad at 970-563-0237 or 970-749-1953.

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Who should apply:

Native students studying business, technology, computer science or marketing

Internship options include:

- Software quality assurance
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Check for updates at
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or

Frances Clem
307-742-5555 ext. 110
frances.clem@handelit.com

Attention:
Southern Ute
Tribal & JOM
eligible students

Teen Leadership in Education

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Department of Education

Take a trip to Washington D.C..

- Ages 13 –18
- June 3rd-8th
- Currently enrolled in school
- Information meeting Jan 18th



Learn more January 18th at the Department of Education Building at 5:30pm. Refreshments and door prizes

Deadline to register February 10th

Deposit is required at time of registration

Contact Michael Kirsch or Julie Stone at

Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Department of Education
330 Burns Ave
P.O. Box 737, No.36
Ignacio, Colorado

Phone: 970-563-0237 ext 2795
Fax: 970-563-0382
E-mail: mikirsch@southern-ute.nsn.us
E-mail: jstone@southern-ute.nsn.us





Bison herd provides cultural, educational value to tribe



Bison take turns grazing against the backdrop of the mountains southeast of Ignacio. Smaller groups of bison are separated from the herd for inspection and vaccination by Southern Ute Wildlife staff. The Bison provide meat for the tribal membership and are a cultural and educational resource. Bison manager Chris Olguin works the stock gate during seasonal vaccinations. The crisp morning air is accentuated by the steam exhaled by a young bison, which is about to receive a routine treatment before being returned to pasture.

Protecting a legacy • from page 1

“This is not a free ranging herd of bison, not a wild species, but semi-wild,” said Division Head Steve Whiteman. “We manage the bison for a variety of benefits

for the membership.” The herd is part of a larger initiative across tribal lands called the Inter-Tribal Buffalo Council, the mission of which is to

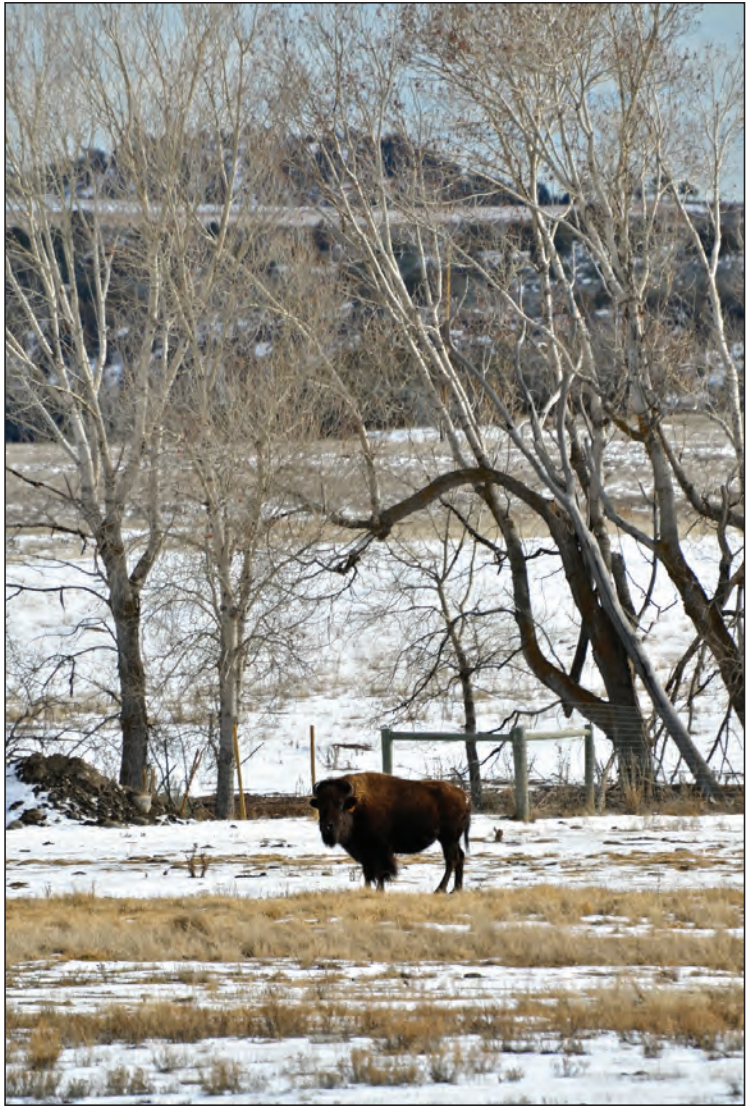
reestablish buffalo herds throughout Indian Country. A board of directors, which includes representatives from each participating tribe, governs the council.

Olguin has served on this board as vice president in years past, fostering strong ties with other tribally managed bison programs. The council aims to promote cultural enhancement, spiritual revitalization, ecological restoration and economic development by re-establishing bison populations.

“One of the spiritual beliefs about buffalo is that they are survivors,” Whiteman said. “They have been able to endure, and I think that Indian people can relate to that.”



photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM





Miners edge Lady Cats in thriller

By Joel Priest
Special to the Drum

To a victor went the more coveted spoils.

However, had Homecoming Queen been voted upon after, rather than before the Saturday, Jan. 21 San Juan Basin League action — well, Telluride’s girls’ royalty might have looked much, much different.

Center Emily Langley and guards Jo Bush and Carla Stauder — the winner — were three of four nominees, and required a uniform change afterward for their presentation before the MinerDome masses.

But on-court, guards Sarah Wontrobski and Emy Ludwig and forward Sonja Erickson stepped up most regally to crown a 41-35 victory.

It wasn’t secured, though, until the final 30 seconds.

The visiting Ignacio Lady Bobcats, sluggish throughout most of the first quarter, had also intensified after a first half, yielding a 17-16 score. Rallying out of an early 9-nil hole, consecutive Mariah Vigil baskets in close first evened the count, and a Sky Cotton free throw then gave IHS a one-point lead after eight minutes.

Seeking fire that fueled a 55-42

road win at rebuilding Mancos the evening before, the Lady Cats returned from the locker room eager, and Vigil converted a three-point power play right off the bat. The all-systems-go Ludwig answered with a speedy drive, but Ignacio then got back-to-back buckets from guard Michelle Simmons and forward Pam Cotton for a 23-19 advantage.

With both sides now having led by their most, the fuse was lit for a fireworks-finish, and Telluride tied at 25 on an Erickson triple, 1:27 remaining in the third, after a Langley free throw. With 0:32 left, Langley took an Erickson feed inside for a brief advantage; Pam Cotton crept along the baseline just before the buzzer for a nearly-uncontested layup and 27-all deadlock.

The fourth frame began cautiously before Ludwig took a steal end-to-end to restart the scoring. Simmons, however, spontaneously combusted from long range in reply, giving IHS a 30-29 lead on a three-pointer from four feet behind the arc.

Telluride (7-2, 4-2 SJBL) regained a one-point lead on two Mallory Bosse FTs, then went up 33-30 on an Erickson breakaway layup. It could have been crippling to the guests, but wasn’t; Simmons bulls-eyed another trey from the same spot as before, just a step closer.

Again, could have been acribler, but wasn’t; Wontrobski (11 points) buried a three on the Lady Miners’ next possession, and after Vigil forced her way in for another hoop, Ludwig (seven

points) floated into the opposite lane for a running basket and 38-35 lead with 55 seconds left and the crowd roaring.

They all knew of whom their team should be wary. But after Ignacio’s ensuing, unsuccessful attempt, Simmons fouled out with 0:29 left, trying to save time after Sky Cotton’s effort at an infraction apparently didn’t create enough audible contact.

One of THS’s six active seniors and seven overall, Erickson (eight points), then hammered in proverbial nails one and two from the stripe, and Ludwig added another with five ticks remaining.

Simmons totaled 10 points for Ignacio (5-6, 3-4), while Vigil led with 13. Pam Cotton, denied a big two-and-one try in the third quarter by a foul deemed before her shot, finished with five. Sky Cotton chipped in three, with Cloe Seibel — who scored 13 at MHS — and Valerie Armstrong each booking two.

Langley finished with nine points for Telluride, with Bosse and Bush netting three apiece.

Next for IHS will be a rematch with Dolores on Friday, Jan. 27, then road trips to Dove Creek (Friday, Feb. 3) and Ridgway (Saturday, Feb. 4) — all SJBL contests — before a Tuesday, Feb. 7 home game versus 3A Pagosa Springs.

TIDBITS FROM TELLURIDE: The Lady Miners owned a 12-4 advantage in attempted FT’s during the first half, but made just five. Justa Whitt took the head-coaching reins with Brice Searles away,



photo Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio junior Michelle Simmons (bottom) ducks and covers amidst a defensive air raid by Telluride senior Jo Bush (20) during a Saturday, Jan. 21 game at THS.

and found herself opposing another former University of Colorado alum: THS volunteer assistant Allison Gausman was a standout defender for the CU soccer team.

MATH FROM MANCOS: Simmons, who notched a 25-

point, 14-rebound, 11-assist triple-double in Ignacio’s Saturday, Jan. 14 home win over Nucla, came close to another (12-12-5) against the Lady Jays. Armstrong, Vigil and Pam Cotton combined for an effective 27 points and 22 rebounds.

IHS boys overwhelm Telluride

By Joel Priest
Special to the Drum

Having starting point guard Fischer Hazen back for his senior year — he’d spent 11th grade studying in Spain — has been great for Telluride. On the night of Saturday, Jan. 21, he was even named Homecoming king.

Having starting center Roger Liljegren attempting multiple three-pointers against the San Juan Basin League’s established monarchs, however — well, at least he was a Denver Post First Team All-1A (eight-man) Football pick. That too was great for THS, and Norwood, for whom he dons pads and cleats.

In the first half against visiting Ignacio, the rim seemed as hard to see as if it hung outdoors in the literal winter wonderland rapidly developing. And head coach Mike Hughes knew that could be as dangerous as hypothermia.

His Miners’ best hope would be that the Bobcats, coming in off a road win at Mancos the night before, would be in too much a hurry to leave for home, heading south over Lizard Head Pass before a possible closure.

Didn’t happen. The Cats were too cool, too quick inside the MinerDome.

Chris Valdez’s crew, despite senior shooting guard Xavier Watts using crutches to take weight off his right ankle, was as methodical as ever in allowing senior Shane Richmond and freshman Adison Jones to establish low-post supremacy — which stoked a 9-0 opening spree, a 24-5 first half, and a 48-27 win.

Hazen finally got the young hosts (he and Liljegren are the only seniors, reserves Jared Balkind and Nathan Loomis the only juniors) on the board with a three-point play, but going 5:13 without as much as a free throw was too overwhelming for the underwhelming Miners, who shot a horrific 2-of-20 from the field in the first 16:00 of regulation time.



photo Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio sophomore Clayton Jefferson (11) divides and conquers a Telluride trap (Brooks Rogers, left, and Sam Demas, right) during a Saturday, Jan. 21 game at THS.

“You’re not going to beat Ignacio shooting 10 percent,” Hughes stated bluntly. “You’re just not.”

Telluride managed to create many open attempts, but the height of Richmond, Jones, Justin Carver and Austin Haire was decisive on the glass, and second-chance tries offensively were almost nonexistent. Not until Valdez completely emptied his bench — JV starter Sam Mestas wore Watts’ No. 12 for the game — did the Miners muster much; sophomore Conner Courter netted eight of his team-high 10 in the fourth.

Richmond led the Bobcats with 20 points, hitting five of six at the stripe. Sophomore Kelton Richmond dropped in 10, hitting two of IHS’s unusually-low three triples. Four-of-4 at the

line, Carver scored six, Jones (17 rebounds) and Clayton Jefferson each had four, while Haire and John House had two.

Hazen and soph Tristan Purdy each chipped in five for THS (6-3, 3-2 SJBL), soph Brooks Rogers hit a late three, and soph Sam Demas matched Liljegren’s two points.

Ignacio (10-3, 7-0) next hosts Dolores on Friday, Jan. 27, then waits for a Saturday, Feb. 4 trip to Ridgway.

In Mancos, while they were not the all-to-the-wall Bobcats the fans inside the Mancos Performance Center expected, IHS still swamped the Blue Jays by 20. Shane Richmond led the 49-29 romp with 21 points, while Jefferson added 10 and Jones six. He and Richmond combined for 15 boards.

Wrestlers 10th at Screaming Eagle

By Joel Priest
Special to the Drum

There’s a taekwondo black belt in his possession.

And 5A Fruita Monument’s Thomas Gaasche also holds a green belt in judo — definitely the better of the martial arts, given its emphasis on throws and leverage, to bolster his grappling repertoire.

Ignacio’s Alex Pena, though, already owns three state wrestling championships — and the unknowing Wildcat 126-pounder received a schooling from the Bobcat senior in the second round of the 23rd annual Screaming Eagle Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 21 at Paonia High School.

Sticking the freshman to the mat in less than a period, Pena then stormed through Cedaredge’s Beau Hebert (16-1 technical fall) and worked past PHS’s Cody Clawson 3-1 to reach the title match against a very familiar foe: Fowler’s Zach DuVall.

The two had clashed the night before at the Paonia Mixed Duals event, with DuVall appearing ready to take victory until Pena rapidly turned the tables — and the Grizzly senior — for a pin with only 12 seconds left. The weekend rematch was just as tight, but Pena prevailed 6-3 and improved to 19-2 overall.

Ignacio had fallen to FHS in their only team-on-team action at the Duals, 54-12 (Pena’s pin and a forfeit for 195-pounder Colton Wyatt), and also lost senior Jeff Herrera for the SCI after he re-aggravated a damaged wrist bone in a 5-3 loss to Dakota Parker at 132.

But with a six-man squad down to five, Ignacio still had three of Class 2A’s elite for the bracket-style tournament, which pulled in 18 teams. Ignacio took 10th place, led by Pena, senior Teagan Overturf at 160 (up from 152 against FHS, defeated 12-9 by Ethan



photo Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio 126-pounder Alex Pena musters all muscle available to uproot Fruita Monument’s Thomas Gaasche during the Saturday, Jan. 21 Screaming Eagle Invitational inside Paonia High School.

Wright), and Wyatt.

Overturf breezed through Cedaredge’s Isaiah Surber (pin, 1:07) and Dove Creek’s Wyatt Applin (pin, 1:55) before running into Jack Woods of Custer County (Westcliffe). Pinned by the Bobcat in blue, Overturf recovered to take third place after pinning Cedaredge’s Sterling Rose and then winning by default over Antonito’s Joey Gallegos to improve to 28-7 in 2011-12.

Everyone in the 195-pound division received a first-round bye, and Wyatt then officially began with pins of Cedaredge’s Ely Fritchman and Sargent’s Chance Padilla before losing a 7-6 decision to SJBL nemesis Jaron Ragsdale of Norwood, and dipping to 18-4 overall.

At 113 pounds, junior Taylor Smith was first pinned in 1:39 by DC’s Chance Randolph, and then eliminated 14-2 by Fowler’s Drew Corsentino, who’d pinned him 15 seconds into the third at the Duals.

And at 170, freshman Blaine

Mickey — like everyone else — received a first-round bye, but then had to face Paonia’s K.C. Christian as a reward. Winner of a hard-fought 7-4 decision over FHS’s Chance Chambers the night before in that particular dual (a 51-10 Eagles win), Christian made sure to stick Mickey and avoid an upset on his home mat. Mickey’s SCI then ended under a pin by Cedaredge’s Brian Leahy.

Up next for the Cats will be their Butch Melton Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 28 at IHS (9 a.m.) after an all-La Plata County triangular on Friday, Jan. 27 in Bayfield (6 p.m.) against the 3A Wolverines and 4A Durango.

LOW-END THEORY: The 2012 SCI was a minefield at the lower weights, and a quick dash through at the upper weights. The 106-pound and 113-pound divisions had to be broken into two brackets each, with 52 total wrestlers competing. By comparison, the 220s and heavy-weights had just 14.



Happy birthday

To Vivi Frost on January 30 Happy Birthday!

You're one year older but aging quite nicely.

May the Creator bless you and continue to walk with you each and every day.

*With lots of love,
Your momma, daddy,
brother and sister, Vern
and Cher, all your nephews,
nieces, and the rest of the
family. Yes, this includes
Suscie and Taffy!!*



Happy Birthday Miracle

You have come so far in 24 years. You have grown into a beautiful young woman. You have many great qualities about you that will get through many trials and tribulations in life. You're an awesome mommy that would do anything for your babies, in time they will appreciate it. We all make mistakes, we're only human beings - being human. Keep

your head high, don't let the world get you down, live for the day, live for the moment and prepare for your future. Thank you Miracle for being you!

*Love always,
Your daddy and
the Ortiz/Red families*

Three cheers for pre-cheers



photo Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Interim head coach Cathy Seibel brings in a group of prospective Ignacio High cheerleaders for a pre-performance pump-up during their halftime performance on Saturday, Jan. 14, helping the Lady Bobcats defeat Nucla inside IHS Gymnasium. More than 30 young rooters took the court along with the current varsity cheer squad, completing a January "cheer camp" with a series of successful shouts.

NEW EMPLOYEES



Bobbie Rosa

Job title: Vocational rehabilitation coordinator

Description of duties: Helping vocational rehab clients with intake - coordinating services.

Hobbies: Reading, hiking and traveling.

Tribe: Southern Ute

Comments: So happy to be working here!



Celeste Chavez

Job title: Custodian

Hobbies: I am responsible for cleaning the Motorpool, Custom Farms, Building Maintenance and Water Resources buildings.

Family: I have a son Andreas, daughters Larissa and natalie and boyfriend Virgil.



Melinda Ortiz

Job title: Custodian

Description of duties: Responsible for cleaning tribal buildings, including Multi-Purpose Facility and other buildings as needed.

Hobbies: Traveling and gambling.

Family: Daughter Mataya S. Ortiz-Weston, granddaughter Adrienne S. Cuch and grandson Avery J. Herrera.

Tribe: Taos Pueblo, Southern Ute descendant

FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

• **OPTIONS FOR PROVING PROGRESS**
Elizabeth Shupe, Colorado Dept. of Education

• **THE ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE**
A New Metaphor for Rural Nonprofit Services.
Scott Baker, PRCLC.

• **DELIVERING "POST SECONDARY"**
to Working Adults in Remote Areas.
Virgil Caldwell, Utah State University.

• **HOW CareerReady® MIGHT AID**
English-language learners in the 21st century.
Chloe Wiebe, Colorado Workforce.

Workshop or presentation proposals accepted until February 28, 2012. Sessions may vary from 1 to 2 hours each; technical resources are available. Share your ideas, initiatives, research, or coalition efforts with us!

CONFERENCE FOR RURAL ADULT LEARNING AND LITERACY March 15-16, 2012: Ignacio, CO

Why is learning advancement so critical to the rural West? How will our local economies benefit from better trained, post-secondary level workers? Why are organizations competing or isolating when their uniqueness can actually enhance the other? How does our professional input itself matter for rural sustainability?

At this second annual event, community-based organizations from across the southwest will be sharing their experience and know-how for supporting and transforming rural lives. So, who's involved?

- Adult Educators
- Family Literacy programs
- Colorado WorkForce
- Public Libraries
- Regional Development councils

- Public Assistance agencies
- Immigrant Aid coalitions
- Conservancy education groups
- Health education networks
- Rural School associations
- College administrators
- Local Business associations
- County offices & Extensions

In bringing professionals from such diverse backgrounds to a common table, the Conference aims to deepen educational outcomes, clarify mutual goals and resources, and expand partnerships for broader public impact. We have so much to learn from each other, doing so means we can accomplish that much more.



P.O. Box 710, Ignacio, CO, 81137

Tel 970.563.0681

Fax 970.563.9039

WWW.PRCLC.ORG

See SkyUteCasino.com for all gaming promotions & entertainment information!

ATTENTION: Southern Ute Tribal Members!

Sky Ute Casino gift shop is now accepting consignment items from Southern Ute Tribal Members!

Only a limited amount of items will be accepted because of space allocation!

If interested call 970. 563.1715.



**14324 Hwy 172 N. Ignacio, CO 81137 970-563-7777
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SunUte Community Center

Senior Breakfast Program

Welcoming all elders 55+

February Menu:

February 3rd Corned Beef Hash

February 10th Cinnamon Roll Frech Toast

February 17th Breakfast Burritos

February 24th Fruity French Toast

Served with coffee and fruit.

Healthy breakfast served every Friday from 9:00am to 10:30am at the SunUte Community Center.

FREE to all Southern Ute Tribal Elders!

FREE to all active SunUte Community Center Members!

Not either, no worries breakfast is only \$4.00/person.

"Keep Your Spirit Strong."

Brought to you by the SunUte Front Desk Staff.



SunUte Community Center

Call us at 970-563-0214 for more information.

Or visit us at www.sunute.com





Express Your Opinions

Jacket Drive for students

During the month of December, 2011, the Southern Ute Police Department reached out to other tribal departments as well as the Ignacio community for donations of new or gently used jackets for those in need during this winter. The jackets donated will be given, based on sizes received, to the Early Head Start, Ignacio Intermediate and the Women Shelter.

Thank you to those who helped this year. We look forward to making this event a bigger success in the coming year.

Southern Ute Police Dept.



New Year's celebration thank you

Over the past few weeks our N.A.Y.O. organization has been working countless hours to put together a New Year's Eve celebration for the community to enjoy. This celebration was the second year in a row that the school has put on a positive function for families and children to attend, an alternative to drinking and partying. It started with Gourd Dancing at 1:30 (Indian Time), dinner break at 5:00 p.m. and grand entry starting at 7:00 p.m. At midnight we asked four Sundance leaders to honor the community with a blessing. Each person was smudged off and prayed for; this was how the New Year was brought in.

The celebration would have been possible without the gracious support and donations from the local organizations of Ignacio, Bayfield and Durango. We would like to give a special thank you to Floral Shop, True Value, Shur-Value, Marcella's, Smokin' Moe's, Patio, Casino, Maddawg's, Style Shoppe, El Dorado, Mom's Hidden Closet, Heroes, Casino Spa, Haircrafters, Glow's Salon, Knit One, The Grocery Store, Salon Del Sol, City Market, Boot Barn, Cowboy Trading Co., T-shirt Off My Back, Candy Factory, Toy Depot, Durango T-shirt Co., Del Sol, Shared Blanket, Spaah Shop,

Animas Trading Co., Affordable Picture Frame, Native Revealed, Mountain Bike Specialists and The Tippy Canoe, The Southern Ute Boys and Girls Club, Southern Ute Tribal Court and the JOM committee, Elise Red and Crew for the great meal, Neida Ray for the outfits, Angela Diaz dress's, Duane Schrock hides and fans and without them, it would not have ran as smooth as it did. We would also like to thank the individual persons that donated and supported the celebration from the beginning to the end. Jimmy Newton, the Frost Families, Gail Cross, Alice Neash, Elwood & Liz Kent, Ardie Eleck our NAYO sponsor, Fort Lewis College students, Clarence Smith, Marissa Rocha, Bruce LeClair, the student head men, women dancers, the student drum group and the Southern Ute Veterans Association. We had a many people donate and are very thankful; if we left anyone out we apologize.

With the help of all the donations and time put into planning this celebration we were rewarded by seeing approximately 400 people in attendance between the hours of noon and midnight. Every person who was there received a free t-shirt and many people were given other things from the numerous giveaways throughout the night.

The vision of this celebration was aimed to the youth and toward giving them an opportu-

nity to be involved in something positive with their peers and families. We learned many things during the planning process as an organization and we would like to thank everyone who helped make this vision a reality. We hope to put it on again next year!

Thank you,

Ignacio High School NAYO club

Sharing Tree thanks community

Dear Sky Ute Casino, tribal programs, merchants, and Ignacio Intermediate School fourth grade classes:

The Ignacio Sharing Tree Program would like to say a big thank you to all the wonderful people and great programs that helped us make Christmas a special day for 13 Head Start and Early Head Start families this year.

Thanks to the Sky Ute Casino, Petra Wasinger, Teri Miller and Annie McGraw for all their fabulous work on the slot tournament. Ignacio Intermediate fourth grade classes, your efforts were deeply appreciated. Six hundred-plus cans! Wow!

Tribal programs, casino workers, individuals and Ignacio merchants: With your tireless assistance, we were able to make Christmas brighter for these families. This large of a project could not have happened without your support.

Wishing you all a wonderful new year in 2012, and again, thank you.

The Sharing Tree Program

Who am I?

By Tim Yaw

Nuuciu Bible Baptist Church

We began this series in search of genuine love by concluding that the lack of properly loving each other is the root cause of unrest in the world.

We have shown that humans are not capable of genuine love because human love is self-centered: directed toward and focused inward. In the last article, we saw genuine love as sacrificial because it is based on the needs of others before our own needs and comes from an external source.

This sacrificial love was illustrated by God when he left his spiritual realm and manifested himself as a sinless human while still being God. He walked with his creation in the name of Jesus Christ. Why? Because God loves his people who he created with which to have an eternal loving relationship.

Our inward focus on our self-satisfaction makes us impure and unholy. The penalty for that impurity is an eternal existence without God. A pure and holy person is the only creature with whom God can have a relationship.

Through a natural focus we see ourselves as not perfectly good, but rationalize that truth by viewing ourselves as being not as bad as some people in order to make us feel good. Yet this causes problems, because we now project ourselves as being better than others.

This view is far from the perfection of God, which is the standard God set for humans to be able to co-exist with him in this life and the next. History has proven that God's standard cannot be met through self-achievement and self-effort.

In other words, no matter how hard we try, we cannot be righteous and holy under our own power. But through God's mercy and grace, he uses his power to bring us to perfect goodness and holiness thus reconciling us into

a loving relationship with him.

How? By sacrificing himself in order to live in us and regenerate our old sinful nature into a relational nature acceptable to God. This is the meaning of the term "born again" used by believers. The old sinful nature in us (focus on self) is transformed into a harmonious relationship with God through God's Holy Spirit.

So if God is willing — and he is — to transform us into righteousness and holiness, what is our part?

In the last four articles, we have taken a look at ourselves by answering the three basic questions of human existence as to where we came from, what our purpose is, and where our soul is going after the body is deceased. We did this in order to get a clearer picture of ourselves and of God.

Only when we see ourselves as falling short of perfection, and compare our imperfection to God's perfection, can we realize a change must be made in order to be in a relationship with him. As we have already pointed out, we cannot accomplish that goal through our own effort.

Because God understands our shortcomings, through his mercy and love he provided a means of reconciliation. That reconciliation comes through Jesus Christ, who took our sins that separated us from God upon himself and died, thus paying the penalty of spiritual death that we were to pay.

This spiritual death is eternal separation from the almighty God: Hell. Better yet, God raised Jesus from the dead and Jesus now lives to mediate between humans and God!

Our part is to simply acknowledge our self-righteousness that has separated us from God, confess that sin, and be willing to allow God to cleanse us and live through us, transforming our soul into the likeness of his purity and righteousness. This is called repentance, and it simply means

making a turn or a 180-degree change from our self-centeredness to a spiritual or Godly focus.

That's it: We just need to see ourselves as the unrighteous person we are and be willing to allow God to change us. Again, the important part is to admit to God that we cannot change ourselves and must rely on him.

God tells us that if we believe in our heart that Jesus took our sin on himself, paying our debt; confess that we are sinners; and be willing to repent from our sinful lifestyle and live for him, we will never be separated from God again and will live with him forever.

When this belief is enacted, God lives in the believer through his Holy Spirit, who cleanses us of our unrighteousness, sanctifying the believer toward perfect holiness and purity.

If you see yourself as the rebellious, self-centered person you are, making you an enemy of God, and want to change that, talk to God and ask him if what we have been talking about is the truth.

Admit your sin of unfaithfulness; confess your heartfelt belief that Jesus died for you, paying your sin debt and making him the Lord of your life. Then ask God to come into you and transform you into his child.

How God makes the change in the genuine believer will be the discussion of the next issue's article. You will be amazed at the new person that is transformed from the old you. All we have to do is trust God and obey his two simple commands: Love the Lord with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul and with all your strength; and love your neighbor as yourself.

Remember, we are talking about true love, which is sacrificial and can only come from God through us. If you are willing, God will share this love with you to share with others.

Imagine a world with this kind of love. You can have it through God, our creator.

Membership memories



photo courtesy Stanley Frost

Long ago, in 1946 or 47, Stanley Frost — here leading his horse with his brother, Jack Frost, in tow — enjoyed the summer thusly: "Saddles will be put on, and away we'll go to the Dry Creek area to check on our cattle. Good ol' summer and no school." The ranch was located between Ignacio and Bayfield. Jack Frost Sr. passed away on Dec. 12, 2011.

Feb. 10
Drum
DEADLINES

Display/Classified
Ads & Jobs
Feb. 6

Stories & News,
Announcements
Wishes/B-Days!
Feb. 6

THE SOUTHERN UTE DRUM

A bi-weekly newspaper, owned and operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation in Ignacio, Colorado.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$29 Per Year • \$49 (2) Years

PHONE: 970-563-0100 • DIRECT: 970-563-0118
TOLL FREE: 1-800-772-1236 • FAX: 970-563-0391

MAILING ADDRESS & PHYSICAL ADDRESS
Southern Ute Drum • 356 Ouray Drive
PO Box 737 #96 • LCB Building, 2nd Floor
Ignacio, CO 81137 • Ignacio, Colorado

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The Southern Ute Drum does not assume responsibility for unsolicited material & does not guarantee publication upon submission.
Published bi-weekly and mailed 1st class from Ignacio, CO.
Printed by the Farmington Daily Times • Farmington, NM
The Southern ute Drum is a member of the Colorado Press Association.



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www.kennydobbs.com





Notices

tog'omsuwiini (10)

January 27, 2012



NEWFIELD Bi-Annual Allottee Meeting (Spring Update)

Ignacio
Thursday, February 9th
10 a.m. at the Sky Ute Casino

Towaoc
Thursday, February 9th
5 p.m. at the Ute Mountain Casino

Topics for the Meetings:

- Recap Activity in 2011
- 2012 Exploration Growth and Outlook
- Community Involvement and Development
- Question and Answer Session

Food and Beverage provided to all Attendees



Questions Please Contact:

Elton Blackhair, Field Landman, Christian Sizemore, Landman Denver or
Ché Faris, Assistant at (303) 383-4161

IN THE SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL COURT
OF THE SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE • ON THE SOUTHERN UTE RESERVATION
PO BOX 737 #149, CR 517, IGNACIO, CO (970) 563-0240

In the Legal Name Change of, Case No.: 11-NC-175 NOTICE OF LEGAL NAME CHANGE

Arecio Adarius Eagle Boy Baker-Hayes
Notice is hereby given that Arecio Adarius Eagle Boy Baker-Hayes has filed an application for legal change of name, to be known hereafter as Arecio Adarius Soaring Eagle Claw Baker. Any person desiring to object to the granting of the petition may do so by filing an objection in writing with the Clerk of the Court no later than February 3, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. If no objection is made, the Court will grant the legal name change.
Dated this 21st day of December, 2011.
Janie Herrera, Court Clerk

Case No. 11-CV-101

NOTICE OF SUIT In RE the Matter of the Repossession of the 1999 Golden West Mobile Home 27'x 48', VIN: GWCA21L25632 AB, and concerning Felipe Lopez (deceased debtor) and Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc. (Plaintiff) TO: Any Interested Person: 1) An Amended Petition for Order Allowing Repossession of the 1999 Golden West Mobile Home 27' x 48', VIN: GWCA21L25632 AB, owned by Felipe Lopez, deceased, has been filed in this Court on October 25, 2011; 2) Any interested party to this lawsuit is directed to immediately file a pleading in response to the Petition For Order Allowing Repossession on file herein in the office of the Clerk of the above Court; 3) If you want to deny the claim you must file a written answer; 4) You may go to a legal counsel or advocate who can prepare an answer for you; 5) If you do nothing, the Court may give judgment for the Plaintiff.



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970-563-9998, 355 Goddard Ave., jquintana1952@yahoo.com, 11a-8p
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970-563-1230
645 Goddard Ave.
classysecondsangela@gmail.com
M-F 9a-5p

Pine River Enterprises
970-563-9286
1817 Hwy. 151
M-F 7:30a-5p
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970-563-0266
355 Goddard Ave.
diamondlady@frontier.net
Tu-Sa 10a-5:30p; Su appt

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970-563-4083
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M-Th 10a-11p; F-Sa 10a-12a; Su 10a-10p
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StarWheels

Horoscopes by "The Starlady"

♈ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AQUARIUS! The NEW YEAR offers an opportunity to advance your personal objectives. This is a good month to expand your viewpoint, AQUARIUS. Look into making some positive changes in your finances. A NEW MOON on Feb. 21 sets up a favorable period to launch a sound and practical plan. Also, image is important now: Do what you can to present a positive one. It's a brand new year and a new you. The best days this month are Feb. 9, 14, 19 and 29.

♊ PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20)

Celebrate, LITTLE FISHES! The NEW MOON in your sign on Feb. 21 denotes a positive cycle has begun. Make it a point to guard against unwise money decisions on Feb. 13. Neptune, your planetary ruler, enters your sign on Feb. 13 and immediately connects with tiny MERCURY. Fuzzy thinking and idealistic fantasies may lull you into splurging on a very expensive Valentine's gift for someone you don't even know that well. Fortunately, good sense returns on the Feb. 19 and 21.

♈ ARIES (March 21–April 20)

The SUN brightly illuminates the friendship sector of your chart until Feb. 17. No doubt you will be at your sociable best 'til then. Trust the planets to guide you in the right direction. For instance, VENUS enters your sign on Feb. 7 and connects with URANUS on Feb. 9, setting off an enthusiastic energy and boosting your popularity. A friendly FULL MOON on Feb. 7 adds to the fun. Positive planetary energies indicate that it's a great time to promote your goals. Don't be shy, ARIES. Remember the saying, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained."

♉ TAURUS (April 21–May 21)

JUPITER's giant presence in your sign keeps on drawing prosperity your way. Some of you might have earned a promotion or pay increase. Continue to do your best and uphold your practical habits regarding money. VENUS, your personal planet, gracefully glides into fiery ARIES on Feb. 7 and hooks up with wild and crazy URANUS on Feb. 9. Watch out, TAURUS: Anything could happen, including a chance meeting with the Valentine of your dreams. URANUS is the king of extraordinary events.

♊ GEMINI (May 21–June 21)

FEBRUARY begins on an upbeat note as your special planet, MERCURY, sails through the travel and education portion of your solar chart. Some of you might have a chance to explore out-of-town adventures with friends, while other GEMINI folks might be planning a romantic Valentine's surprise for a loved one. VENUS enters high-spirited ARIES late on Feb. 7 and fires up your social agenda. Step lively, TWINS: You don't want to miss anything!

♋ CANCER (June 22–July 22)

Current planetary positions indicate a concentrated sensitivity to the emotions of others. Be mindful of what you say, MOON KIDS. NEPTUNE, the planet of miscommunication, slips into dreamy PISCES on Feb. 3 and covers the planet in an idealistic fog. Be especially diligent with taxes and accounting, as mistakes can sometimes occur. It might be nice to treat your main squeeze to an overnight trip to a romantic location. If not, flowers and candy are always thoughtful, and a sweet Valentine's card can speak volumes. Let your intuition be your guide.

♌ LEO (July 23–Aug. 22)

The focus is on close relationships, finance, and future objectives. A FULL MOON in your sign on Feb. 7 may stir sensitive issues related to partnerships. It might be best to calmly clear the air with your mate. On Feb. 8, when VENUS slips into compatible ARIES, your thoughts may turn to more exciting ventures, such as travel. Remember, LIONS: Cooperation and compromise work well when debating with partners over shared finances. Do what you can to improve spending habits.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 23)

Hardworking VIRGO folks may be tested this month as the SUN passes through the work and health division of your solar chart. Not only will you be working more hours; you may also be incorporating some new techniques into your work routine. Aggressive MARS persists in its journey through your sign. Sidestep the inclination to snap at others. Stress can play havoc with your health, so chill out and find ways to relax.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24–Oct. 23)

Creative entertainment and happy times with loved ones take top priority this month. Be inventive, LIBRA. Allow your resourceful talents to roam free. Valentine's Day is one of the few holidays we have to express our feelings in an open and relaxed manner. Your sign is famous for a gentle, loving nature. You instinctively know just the right thing to do, and the best way to express yourself.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22)

Both domestic affairs and family relations may need extra pampering until Feb. 18, when the SUN enters compatible PISCES. The month is ripe with opportunity, SCORPIO. Don't waste a minute more focusing on worn-out ideas and old activities. This is the time to plan ahead and build a strong foundation with loved ones. Your most favorable days this month are Feb. 18 and 27. Cupid may shoot his arrows at you on Feb. 14 — they might do wonders to reawaken a more positive attitude.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21)

Keep your cool and mind what you say to others, SAGITTARIUS. The SUN in friendly, harmonious AQUARIUS might have you excitedly blurring out things that are better kept to yourself. Instead, zoom in on domestic projects. The NEW MOON on Feb. 21 launches a fresh cycle. Don't allow NEPTUNE, the planet of confusion, to distract you from your plans. NEPTUNE slips into its own sign of PISCES on Feb. 3 and immediately begins to cast its magical spell everywhere. It's OK to use your intuition, but maintain clarity before you act.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 20)

The outlook for FEBRUARY is promising. Our nearest star, the SUN, lights up the financial area of your solar chart. Follow your instincts regarding methods to improve your finances. Best to maintain a clear head, CAPRICORN: NEPTUNE, the planet of deception, may cloud your thought process. Organize important papers and pay close attention to your daily routine, particularly on Feb. 1, when VENUS, the money planet, takes a stand opposite spendthrift MARS.

Carole Maye is a Certified Astrology Professional with over 30 years of astrological study and practice.
Private horoscope consultations can be arranged by appointment, via email: starwheels2@comcast.net

Get Ready for Spring!



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www.MorehartMurphyAutoCenter.com • South Bodo Park, Durango • 970.247.2121



Southern Ute Growth Fund

Obtain complete job descriptions and applications from the Growth Fund Human Resources, 14933 Hwy. 172 • P.O. Box 367 • Ignacio, CO • 970-563-5064 • rtaylor@sugf.com
Tribal Member Employment Preference, Must Pass Pre-employment Drug Test & Criminal History.

Summer Intern Instrumentation/Controls Tech

Closing date 2/3/12 – Aka Energy Group
At various Aka worksites in OK, TX, or NM. This position is a training position designed to give technical college level students work experience in the midstream industry.

Landman IV

Closing date 2/28/12 – Red Willow Production Co. Ignacio, CO. Obtains the legal licenses to drill and produce oil and gas, maintains orderly, accurate, and appropriate land records, negotiates and assists in the drafting of leases and partnership documents, and provides leadership to multi-function teams.

Lead Land Records Analyst

Closing date 3/9/12 – Red Willow Production Co. Ignacio, CO. Establishes the procedures and protocol to maintain orderly, accurate, and appropriate land records for all operated and non-operated interest properties, including leases, joint operating agreements, and other various land documents.

Lead Division Order Analyst

Closing date 3/9/12 – Red Willow Production Co. Ignacio, CO. Establishes the Division Order procedures and protocols to ensure that all necessary files documenting title and interest for Red Willow interest properties, both operated/non-operated, are obtained and maintained in an orderly/accurate filing system.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
Powwow Committee vacancy

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe has four Powwow Committee Member vacancies. Must be an enrolled Southern Ute Tribal Members or a Native American community member. Members serve on a voluntary basis. The responsibility of the Southern Ute Indian Powwow Committee is to promote the traditions and culture of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe through powwows. All interests individuals are urged to submit a letter of intent to Personnel Department in the Leonard C. Burch Tribal Administration Building.

TIM KEUSKI OF VERIFIED GREEN, LLC
presents a slideshow on home energy Assessment

Topics to include insulation levels, windows, pressure testing with infrared thermal imaging, the home as an integrated system and homes being built as net zero. Attend the class to be informed on indoor air quality issues, how to make your home more comfortable and durable, all while lowering your energy bills. Thursday, Feb. 2, Pine River Community Learning Center, 54 Mill Street, Bayfield, CO, 6 to 8 p.m. Call Deb Pace today to reserve your spot at 970-563-0681.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY
Board of Commissioners Committee vacancy

The Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority is currently seeking an individual to serve on the Housing Board of Commissioners. The Board adopts policies, and enacts resolutions of the Housing Authority. Individuals interested in serving as a Board Member should submit a letter of intent to the Housing Authority stating their qualifications and why they would like to serve on the Board. All letters of intent should be submitted to the Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority, P.O. Box 447, Ignacio, CO 81137 or deliver to the Housing Authority Office located at 760 Shoshone Avenue, Ignacio, CO. Proof of Southern Ute Tribal Member required. Letters of intent will be accepted until 2 p.m. – Feb. 10, 2012.

Sky Ute Casino Resort

Human Resources Department: 970-563-1311 • Fax: 970-563-1419
P.O. Box 340 • Ignacio, CO 81137 • Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Indian Preference Employer • All Applicants Welcome • Apply online: www.skyutecasino.com

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*Preference Given To Qualified Southern Ute tribal members and other Native Americans.
FT: Full-time; PT: Part-time; OC: On-Call; TMP: Temp*

BP - Job Announcements

For in-depth information on this position and to join our team, visit our website at: www.bp.com/epcareers. BP is seeking the following positions. BP is an equal opportunity employer. Click on the “View Jobs” under the “HSSE” category or click “Submit Resume/CV” and then click “Search Openings” and type in Req ID#.

Facilities Engineer – Durango, CO #28918BR

BP is an EOP. In compliance with Title 17 of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Employment Rights Code, BP will give preference to individuals covered by the Code for purposes of hiring, promotion, lay-off, and training for work performed within the exterior boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Reservation.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE
WILDLIFE DIVISION
Wildlife Advisory Board vacancies

The Tribe is seeking enrolled SUIT members wishing to fill TWO vacant seats on the Tribal Member Wildlife Advisory Board.

One of the vacancies is for the remaining 2 years of a 3-year seat on the Board, while the second vacancy is for a 1-year, Youth-Only seat. The Youth seat may only be filled by a Tribal Member between the ages of 14 and 18. This 8-member Board works closely with the Wildlife Division in planning and recommending actions related to Tribal hunting and fishing programs.

Board members not already employed by the Tribe are eligible for \$20/hr compensation for meeting attendance. Meetings are held several times throughout the year, and a commitment to attend and participate in all meetings is expected.

Interested tribal members must submit a brief letter of interest to the Southern Ute Wildlife Division at P.O. Box 737, Ignacio CO, 81137. For more information, please contact the Wildlife Division at 970-563-0130. Letters of interest will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 17, 2011.

TaxMasters, Inc.

has moved to
645 Goddard
(next to Wells Fargo Bank)

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Monday – Friday

970-563-4140

Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Please refer to the complete job announcement and qualifications at www.southern-ute.nsn.us/jobs or at the Human Resources Department
P.O. Box 737 • Ignacio, CO 81137 • Phone: 970-563-0100 • Fax: 970-563-0396 • Hotline: 970-563-4777
*Human Resources accepts applications for Temporary Employment on an on-going basis.

Dental Assistant

Open until filled – Pay grade 17
Under dentist supervision, incumbent is responsible for a wide range of tasks in the Southern Ute Health Center dental office including, but not limited to, providing chair side dental assistance, administrative and records duties, and radiology functions.

Group Exercise Instructor (4 Positions)

Closing date 1/31/12 – Pay grade 16
Provides group exercise instruction and fitness activities to members of the Sun Ute Community Center, in accordance with the guidelines established and approved by Fitness Director and/or Community Center Director.

Gaming Investigator II

Closing date 2/2/12 – Pay grade 19
Under general supervision of the Investigator III, incumbent regulates and controls Class II and Class III gaming on the Southern Ute Reservation.

Patrol Officer

Closing date 2/2/12 – Pay grade 18
Patrols the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, and is responsible for preserving the life and property of all citizens within the Tribal Community.

Administrative Medical Assistant

Closing date 2/3/12 – Pay grade 16
Provides medical administrative assistant work independently with other health care professionals.

Electrician

Closes 2/7/12 – Pay grade 18
Repair, maintenance and installation of mechanical

and electrical equipment in Tribal buildings, troubleshooting and correcting safety hazards.

Detention Officer

Closing date 2/8/12 – pay grade 17
Under general supervision of the Detention Sergeant, maintains the safety and welfare of inmates and visitors and monitors all activities within the detention center.

Special Programs Coordinator

Closing date 2/9/12 – Pay grade 17
Develops, implements, monitors and evaluates special programs related to wellness activities within the Diabetes Program. Provides coordination of resources between the Community Center, Health Services, and other organizations promoting the health of the Southern Ute Tribal membership and community. Grant funded position.

Safety Officer

Closes 2/10/12 – Pay grade 18
Under the direction of the Risk and Emergency Manager, manages and oversees the planning, design and development of an occupational safety program in order to provide a safe and healthy workplace for employees and to reduce work-related injuries and accidents.

Range Technician

Closing date 2/13/12 – Pay grade 18
Under the general supervision of the Range Division Head, represents the Range Division of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in a positive professional manner while implementing and coordinating range management activities.

Help in filling out online applications is available at the Human Resources office. Another way to find out about job opportunities 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is our JOB HOTLINE! The HOTLINE is updated weekly and lists the job title and closing date for both Permanent Fund and Growth Fund positions.

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE, SOCIAL SERVICES
Citizen Review Panel

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is seeking five (5) Southern Ute Tribal Members to serve on the Citizen Review Panel. The Panel reviews complaints arising from and related to cases handled by the Tribe's Division of Social Services and engages in a conflict resolution process. Panel members shall receive compensation at the rate of \$25 per hour for service on the Panel. Applicants must be at least eighteen (18) years of age or older; have demonstrable personal or professional knowledge and experience with children and/or adult protection; have no convictions for crimes of violence or involving a child victim; is not party to litigation involving the Division, or has had an active welfare case within two years; is not a Division employee. All applicants will be subject to a background investigation. Tribal members interested in serving on the Citizen Review Panel can turn in a letter of intent at the Human Resources Office. The letter should provide specific evidence of his/her qualifications. For detailed information about this volunteer position call Human Resources at 970-563-0100 Ext. 2424.

SUCCM

Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum • Application packets can be picked up at 2nd floor, 77 CR 517, Ignacio, CO or contact Museum Apprentice Director at 970-563-9583 or nstrongelk@succm.org for digital packet • www.succm.org • No email, fax, incomplete, or late applications will be considered.

Museum Docent

Closing date 2/7/12 – Perform a wide variety of duties to deliver front line, cultural education, docent, and other educational and event services. High school diploma and public presentation skills are required. Prior museum experience and higher education in Museum, Native American, Public Education, or Tourism Studies are preferred. Native American hiring preference applies.

Museum Tech

Closing date 2/7/12 – To perform a wide variety of duties to coordinate and deliver front line, cultural education, and docent services. High school diploma and public presentation skills are required. Prior museum experience and higher education in Museum, Native American, Public Education, or Tourism Studies are preferred.

Road Runner Transit
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Run errands, go shopping or simply get around town!

Road Runner Transit offers Dial-a-Ride Service within the town of Ignacio. The cost is \$.50 one way for travel within town and \$1.00 for trips from the hills surrounding into Ignacio. Services Tribal Campus, Southern Ute Indian Housing Authority projects and subdivisions. Dial-a-Ride Service is available from 9:00 AM to 9:30 PM, Monday through Friday and 11:00 AM to 9:30 PM on Saturday and Sunday. Weekends call (970) 749-0223.

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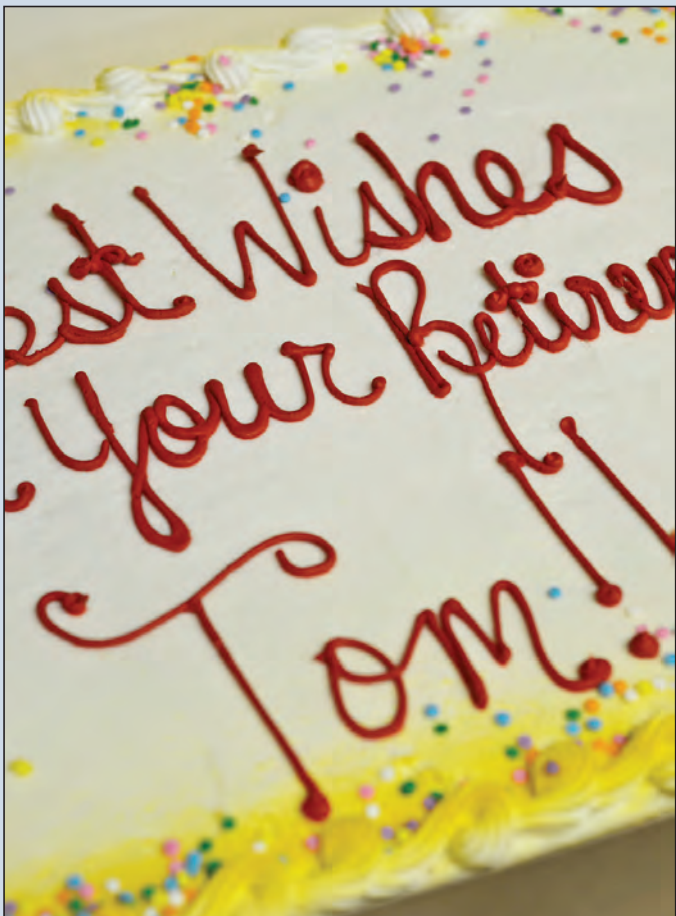
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We are also online at the addresses below.

Drum Web: southern-ute.nsn.us/drum • Drum Email: sudrum@southern-ute.nsn.us



Tom Brown retires



Tom Brown of the Southern Ute Growth Fund Utilities Division retired last week. A reception took place at the Lions Club in Bayfield on Friday, Jan. 20, and was attended by friends, family and longtime colleagues. Brown started working for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in September of 1985 as the water plant foreman.

photos Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

In memory of Michael Andrew “Mike-Fire” Frost Dec. 12, 1962 – Jan. 18, 1998

The following is reprinted at the request of Southern Ute tribal elder Stanley Frost, who provided the materials.

On Jan. 18, 1998, those of us involved in tribal environmental issues lost a good friend and an enthusiastic and talented educator when Mike Frost, director of Environmental Programs for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, passed away in Ignacio.

Mike joined the Southern Ute Air Quality Program in 1983 as an air quality technician, and ultimately became the director of Environmental Programs.

In an article published days before his untimely passing, Mike described his role: “I see myself as one of the people in the tribe that has to go out and fight for grants and environmental programs for Indian Country.”

Mike was instrumental in bringing about and developing the American Indian Air Quality Training Program at the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals. He helped develop and refine the curriculum and was an outstanding instructor.

Mike was also a motivating force in developing tribal air programs throughout Indian Country, and he was unselfish in his contributions to tribal environmental protection.

In the words of a colleague, Mike was “a great person, a devout supporter of our ways, and most of all a friend to Indian people coast to coast.”

Another colleague commented: “He inspired me to have patience in developing our tribe’s air quality program. I want my staff to understand that it takes perseverance, and it’s a lesson we must all learn.”

Mike’s passing has led to an outpouring of affection and respect for this talented and irreplaceable member of our community. He will be missed.

We at ITEP dedicate our 1998 workshops to Mike’s memory in the hope that we can work even harder for the protection of the environment. We believe this is exactly what Mike would expect of us.

Dear editor,

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I convey my deepest sympathies on the loss of Mike Frost, your environmental director.

My regional and headquarters staff inform me that Mike was a member of good standing within your tribe and an indispensable asset to your environmental protection program.

I greatly respect and appreciate Mike’s commitment to working with the EPA and the tribes in EPA Region 8, the Southwest, and nationally to improve public health and environmental protection in Indian Country.

I also deeply appreciate your selflessness and generosity in letting Mike devote so much of his time to working hard and effectively on regional and national environmental issues.

From my own personal experience, I can speak for man here at EPA who realize that the vision, candor and wisdom that Mike brought to the ERPA Tribal Operations Committee was an irreplaceable asset that will truly be missed.

Again, I offer my sincerest condolences on the death of Mike Frost. Please do not hesitate to call me or Kathy Gorospe, director of the American Indian Environmental Office, if we can be of any assistance to you or the tribe.

— Carol M. Browner

Dear editor,

On behalf of the Sac and Fox Nation, I convey my deepest sympathies on the recent loss of



Mike Frost, your tribal member and your environmental director.

The Sac and Fox Nation environmental staff inform me that Mike not only was an invaluable asset to your tribe’s environmental protection program, but assisted other tribes in the development of their programs.

I have great respect and appreciation for Mike’s unwavering commitment to improve health and environmental protection in Indian Country, which was evident in every task he aspired to achieve.

Mike served as an inspiration and an invaluable source of practical information to our environmental staff in the development of air quality management. Mike was quite adept in a field that requires technical, political and cultural astuteness.

I appreciate your generosity in allowing Mike to devote so much of his time to national and tribal environmental issues, which in actuality benefited all tribes. I offer my sincerest condolences on the death of Mike Frost.

— Don W. Abney, principal chief

Dear editor,

I can’t remember the very first time that I met Mike, but it was at least 12 years ago when we were both starting out in the tribal environment field. We took different paths, but our goal was always the same: to protect the environment in Indian Country.

Mike was a constant in my life, whether it was working with me for a year while he was an EPA intern at Region 8, or more recently seeing him at the many meetings and conferences that we both attended.

We had great respect for each other, and we always treated each other with kindness, but also with directness and honesty. We didn’t always agree, but we listened to each other.

I couldn’t have asked for a better colleague, friend, and fellow protector of the environment.

I can’t believe that Mike is gone from this world. It seems like only yesterday that he was here at Region 8, giving us “heck” for something he thought we were not doing, or weren’t doing fast enough. If we ever get the Tribal Air Rule approved, I will tell Mike: “We finally did it.”

I know he will be pleased, but he will also think in his mind, “It’s about damn time.”

Mike passed from this world on Jan. 18, 1998, and we traveled to the Southern Ute Reservation on Jan. 23 to say our goodbyes to him and pay our respects to his lived ones who remain behind: his wife, Wahleah; his two young daughters, Kelsey and Marysa; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Frost. Mike also had two brothers, two sisters, and many, many relatives.

At Mike’s service, the priest gave a very appropriate message about how environmental work — protecting the air, water and land — is very close to God’s work, and that we who remain

here must carry on this work and are very privileged to do so, because it is a sacred duty.

I can’t sat it as well as he did, but I took much strength and encouragement from those words because they were so eloquently stated and true, and we don’t often stop to acknowledge that.

At the service, there were also some beautiful traditional songs sung for Mike to send him to the spirit world. The blending of the two traditions is what characterized Mike for me: a true professional and trailblazer in the EPA world, a leader in his tribe as the director of Environmental Programs, and a tribal member who did great things for his tribe that will be remembers by many.

Mike accomplished much in his very short life here with us. We will miss our friend and colleague, Mike Frost.

— Sadie Hoskie, EPA Region 8 (Denver)

The Environmental Programs Division had a plaque made to honor the late Mike Frost, past director of the division.

The Public Works & Operations Department contributed a piece of marble the plaque could be mounted on. The Grounds Maintenance Division framed and poured, in concrete, the pedestal upon which the marble and plaque were mounted.

This was placed at the base of the flowering crabapple tree that was dedicated during Earth Day in April. This monument is located on the northeast corner of the Annex Building, and can be viewed by anyone at any time.

Mike meant a lot, not just to the Southern Ute Tribe and his family, but also to the many people who worked with him and came to call him friend. We are all constantly aware of his absence and miss his good nature and smiling face.

When a person loses a close friend, a fear of forgetting that person and what their life meant to you lives with you constantly. By establishing this monument, it becomes a constant, day-to-day reminder of a good person whom God chose to bring home early.

We never know why these things happen; they just do. For those of us who are here, we just have to move on and try not to spend too much time wondering why this has happened.

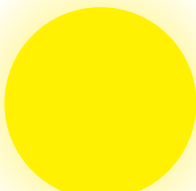
It doesn’t mean we are to forget. For myself, I have chosen to remember Mike for all the good times we had as friends. I’ll remember a man who opened up his life to me and made me feel like I was someone important to him.

I am a better person for having known Mike and will owe him a debt of gratitude that I cannot repay. I can only ask God to let him know that I won’t forget him.

— Bob Piccoli, director of Public Works & Operations

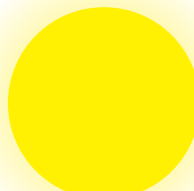
Local Ignacio Weather

Friday, Jan. 27



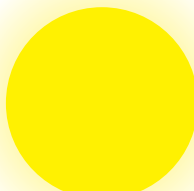
Mostly unny, High 43° F

Saturday, Jan. 28



Sunny, High 43° F

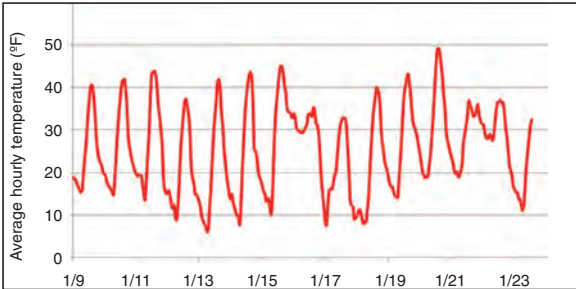
Sunday, Jan. 29



Sunny, High 44° F

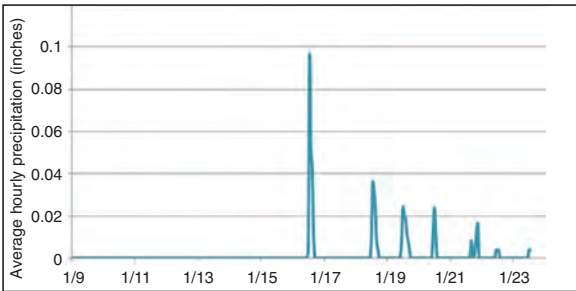


Weather data for January 9 – January 23



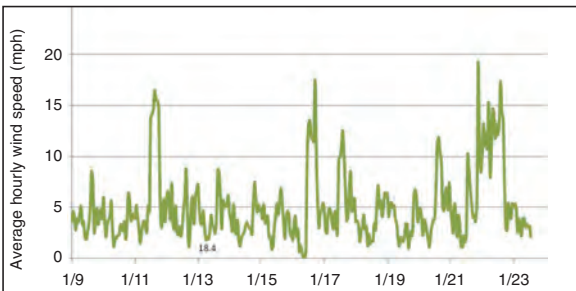
Temperature

High 49.1°F
Low 6.1°F
Average 25.3°F
Average last year 23.3°F



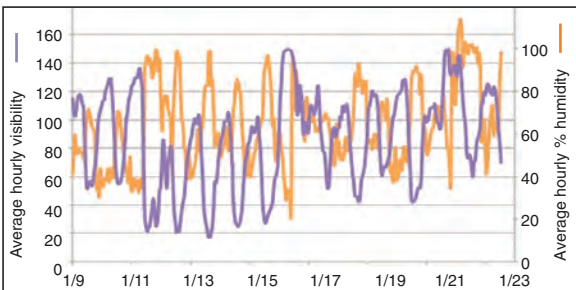
Precipitation

Total 0.53 inches
Total last year 0.00 inches



Wind speed

Average 5.0 mph
Minimum 0.0 mph
Maximum 19.1 mph



Visibility & humidity

Avg. visibility 96.6
Avg. humidity 57.5%

Air quality

Good

